

To the Members of the California State Senate:

As I stated last year when I vetoed a substantially similar bill, AB 477 (Baca), I am concerned that expanding the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program to a new, higher income population may negatively impact the ability of low-income seniors and persons with disabilities currently enrolled in the IHSS program to secure the services they need. Senate Bill 1435 would require counties to have a surplus of providers when initiating the pilot program. However, there is no requirement that the county maintain adequate providers throughout the project.

IHSS consumers often report difficulty in locating, hiring, and retaining quality service providers. Allowing those who are not currently IHSS consumers to purchase services through the IHSS program and hire the limited number of registered providers may exacerbate these challenges.

For this reason, I am returning SB 1435 without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger